S/N 09/841,646

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

KOMORI et al.

AU6 0 9 2001

Examiner:

Unknown

Serial No.:

09/841,646

Group Art Unit:

1745

Filed:

April 24, 2001

Docket No.:

10873.690US01

Title:

ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 2023, on August 7, 201.

By: Mristen Smith

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Applicant hereby brings to the Examiner's attention that 0 599 137 is a corresponding European application to Japanese patent no. 6-150963; 0 644 604 is a corresponding European application to Japanese patent no. 7-85847; 0 657 952 is a corresponding European application to Japanese patent no. 7-161377; 0 776 057 is a corresponding European application to Japanese patent no. 7-320775; 0 834 951 is a corresponding European application to Japanese

patent no. 10-106618; 0 271 043 is a corresponding European application to Japanese patent no. 64-57568.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

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Dated: August 7, 2001

Douglas P. Mueller

Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/tvm/kas